DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER & ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

College of Engineering & Computer Science
Florida Atlantic University

PH.D. IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING WORKSHEET

Name: _____ Z#:_____ Advisor: _____

Date of Qualifying Exam: _____ Date of Admission to Candidacy: _____

Major: _____ Date of PhD Proposal Presentation*: _____

* PhD proposal must be presented and approved by the committee at least 6 months before the oral dissertation defense.

Prerequisites

Course No.	Course Title	Actual Course Title if Not Taken at FAU	Where	Grade
CDA 3331C	Intro to Microprocessor Systems			
CDA 4102	Structured Computer Architecture **OR**			
CDA 4204	CAD-Based Computer Design			
EEE 3300	Intro to Electronics **OR**			
CDA 4210	Introduction to VLSI			
COP 3530	Data Structures & Algorithm Analysis			
MAC 2311	Calculus with Analytic Geometry I			
MAC 2312	Calculus with Analytic Geometry II			
STA 4821	Stochastic Models for Computer Science			

Master's Credits (30):

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name

PhD Required Courses That Have Been Completed (21 credits):

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name

Dissertation Credits (At least 33 credits):

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name

Research Published Paper

A Doctoral Candidate is expected to have at least one research paper published or accepted for publication in a fully refereed conference or journal prior to graduation.

Layout and Content of "Dissertation Proposal"

This document provides general guidelines for the layout and content of the dissertation proposal. The guidelines may be modified to suit the project and the student's advisor may require additional material to be added to the proposal. The purpose of this document is to provide a starting point from which the final proposal can be developed.

Format

The dissertation proposal should be written in MS word using the same template as this document. Do not alter the margins, headers or footers. Each section should be numbered as given below.

Cover Page

The proposal cover page should include
- Title (up to 25 words) - The title can be a working title in that it can be changed at a later date. It should convey the essence of the proposed work.
- Student Name
- The statement Dissertation Proposal submitted in partial fulfillment of a Doctoral Degree in Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.
- Date
- Names and room for signature of the student's advisor and advisory committee.

Content

The dissertation proposal should include the following sections:

1. **Introduction -** Gives the background to the work in general terms and the layout of the document.
2. **Dissertation Objective -** A statement, which is less than half a page long, specifying the objective of the work.
3. **Literature Review -** Reviews the pertinent literature with the objective of placing the research in the context of work that has been done before. Having read this section the committee will have a clear understanding of how the dissertation will provide new insights and advance the state of the art. A dissertation proposal must clearly identify the uniqueness of the study.
4. **Approach -** Describes the theoretical, experimental or numerical approach that will be used in the study, including the background theory where necessary. The derivation of major equations can be added in an appendix if required by the student's supervisor.
5. **Tasks to be completed -** This should describe the expected series of tasks that will be undertaken during the study.
6. **Timetable -** Defines the time line for the completion of the work.
7. **References -** A list of references should be provided in an appropriate academic format such as Harvard or Author-Date.
8. **Figures and Tables -** Figures and tables may be placed in the document or at the end of the document. Each figure and table should be numbered in the order that it is referred to in the text and have a caption/heading that describes the content of the figure/table.

Research Portfolio

Every doctoral student must maintain a Research Portfolio containing research papers (book chapter, conference or journal contributions accepted or published, patents, non-refereed publications) done throughout the student's Ph.D. degree studies. The dissertation will be added to the Research Portfolio prior to graduation. The Portfolio must be approved by a graduate advisor prior to graduation certification.

Research Portfolio: _____   Inspected by: _____

Advisor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____